



Benton County COVID-19 County Metric Increase

For Immediate Release:
9 December 2020

Contact: Benton County Emergency Management Hotline
Office: (765) 884-1359

Benton County, Ind. The Indiana State Department of Health is reporting that Benton County has entered "the red" in regards to county metrics this week. This means that our county has moved to the most elevated category of weekly Corona Virus score and positivity rate from the State. Our county has done well up until this point during the pandemic, but everyone needs to buckle down to work to decrease our positivity rate over the next few weeks.

As the next wave of Corona Virus ramps up across the State, County Officials urge residents to do their part in reducing the spread of the virus. We know that the fatigue of the virus is tolling for everyone, but to keep our residents safe, extra precautions should be observed when out in the public around others that may potentially have the virus. Especially with the holiday season upon us, everyone needs to evaluate if big get togethers are worth the risk of exposing a large amount of loved ones and residents of the county.

- **Tips**

- Wash your hands frequently with soap and water and dry completely
- If soap and water is not available, use an alcohol based hand sanitizer to clean hands
- Masks should be worn when out in the public, especially when social distancing cannot be accomplished
- Stay at home when you are sick; if you are experiencing symptoms, do not venture out in public to put others at risk
- If you have been contact traced or informed to quarantine, please do so. You may be a carrier and not actually feel symptoms, but spreading the virus can be done without you being aware.

- **Symptoms**

- The main signs and symptoms of COVID-19 (corona virus) are as follows:
 - Dry persistent cough and/or shortness of breath with additional signs/symptoms of:
 - Fever
 - Chills
 - Repeated shaking with chills
 - Muscle Pain
 - Headache
 - Sore Throat
 - New loss of taste or smell
- Anyone exhibiting these symptoms should contact their physician for an evaluation.

#

#

#